

## WILL NEVER FIGHT AGAIN.

John L. Sullivan is Too Much of a Wreck to Enter the Ring.

A few days ago a statement was published in the newspapers to the effect that if Mitchell defeated Corbett Sullivan would challenge Mitchell. Quite a number of people have treated this statement seriously, and really believed in its truthfulness, writes Pringle in the *Pittsburg Dispatch*.

Nothing could be more foolish than to expect John L. Sullivan to appear in the ring again against a champion, or anybody else for that matter. Why, Sullivan was a wreck when he met Corbett. If it was difficult for him to train then, it will be twenty times worse now. Sullivan has no such notion; he does not intend to fight either Corbett or Mitchell any more, simply because he cannot possibly get into condition to do so.

It is quite true that some doctors have stated that six months' good training would fix John L. up again. Nonsense. It is a remarkable fact that the very worst judges of athletes are physicians, as a rule. Their ideas as to what an athlete can do in comparison with another are of the most misleading kind, and, as far as training a man is concerned, any old trainer or athlete will tell you that physicians are failures. We all know how many absurd things the doctors said about Sullivan before he fought Corbett, and how it became the fashion for a time to have every boxer of prominence get a doctor's certificate, showing that he, the boxer, could do this or that. These certificates were useless. No matter what the doctors may say, Sullivan is gone as far as fighting is concerned. Others as strong as he was have gone in the same way before him.

## ORIGIN OF THE DOLLAR MARK.

Half a Dozen Theories, Each Having a Reason Behind It.

Not less than a score of theories have been advanced as to the origin of the dollar mark (\$). Of these the *St. Louis Republic* believes the following to be the most plausible:

First—That it is a combination of the "U. S.," the initials of the United States.

Second—That it is a modification of the figure 8, the dollar being formerly called "a piece of eight."

Third—That it is derived from a representation of the Pillars of Hercules, consisting of two needle-like towers or pillars connected with a scroll. The old Spanish coins marked with the pillar device were frequently referred to as "pillar dollars."

Fourth—That it is a combination of "H. S.," the ancient Roman mark of money unit.

Fifth—That it is a combination of P. and S., from *peso duro*, signifying "hard dollar." In Spanish accounts *peso* is contracted by writing the S. over the P. and placing it after the sum.

The editor of the London *Whitehall Review*, a very able writer, in giving his opinion of "Reason No. 3," as given above, says: "The American symbol for dollars is taken from the Spanish dollar, and the origin of the sign, of course, must be looked for in associations of Spanish coins. On the reverse side of the Spanish dollar is a representation of the pillars of Hercules, and around each pillar is a scroll with the inscription, 'Plus ultra.' This device in course of time has degenerated into the sign which at present stands for American as well as Spanish dollars—'\$.' The scroll around the pillars represents the two serpents seen by Juno to destroy Hercules in his cradle."

## "LOVE AMONG RUINS."

A Great Picture Destroyed By an Ignorant Workman.

The news that Mr. Burne-Jones' well-known picture, "Love Among Ruins," has been completely destroyed past all hope of reparation will seem to many people to whom English art is dear little short of a national calamity. The picture was intrusted by Mr. Burne-Jones to a well-known firm of art publishers, at their urgent request, for the reproduction by process, and not only did the publishers know that the picture was a water color, but Mr. Burne-Jones had even taken the precaution to affix a label on the back of the work stating its medium, and that any moisture would be injurious thereto. In spite of this the picture was apparently confided to some ignorant employee, who covered the whole surface with a preparation of white of egg. The result is the destruction of all the final touches and finished tones. The faces and hands are smeared and blurred, and in fact, one of the records of the life of one of the greatest painters of this century is practically wiped off the roll of fame. When one remembers the crowds that collected before "Love Among Ruins" on each occasion of its being exhibited to the public, one gets some faint inkling of the indignation and dismay which the news of its destruction, through carelessness, has spread broadcast among all lovers of art.—*New York Tribune*.

An appeal for aid for the only surviving child of Theodore Edward Hook, the novelist and dramatic writer, has appeared in several English papers.

M. Zola has had an enthusiastic reception from the Lord Mayor and people of London, where a man was recently sent to prison for publishing one of his works.

The official organ of the Vatican has just denied that the Pope owns several millions of dollars' worth of land in London from which he derives a princely income.

## REMARKABLE DREAMS.

Premontions of the Death of a Butte City Woman and Her Sister.

A short time ago Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries of Butte City, Mont., was killed at a railroad crossing while out driving. Many of the friends of the deceased lady now recall a presentiment she had of her approaching death and in the manner she met it. Only a few days before her death she called on several of her neighbors and told them she had an indescribable feeling of impending danger, and that she knew she would soon die.

Her friends tried to persuade her that there was nothing to fear from such a presentiment and urged her to dismiss the matter from her mind. She would not be dissuaded, however, and requested the friend to whom she was talking to interest herself in the child when she was dead; also named certain of her neighbors whom she desired to prepare her body for burial. At the same time she expressed a wish that no other persons be permitted to touch her body. In fact, she made all suggestions for her funeral and the care of the child she would leave motherless.

A day or two before the fatal accident Mrs. Jeffries was out long riding with a party. During the drive they had occasion to cross a railroad track. A train was approaching from the distance, and although so far away that there was no danger the lady thought the accident she so vividly expected was about to overtake her and nearly fainted in consequence. When all danger had passed, her attention was called to the evident absurdity of her fears, but she simply maintained that the time had not yet arrived, and that sooner or later her presentiment would prove true.

As a further evidence of the lady's strange power to forecast and receive premonitions of impending calamities, it is related by one of her friends that some time ago she had a vivid dream of a funeral passing her door. She asked some one as to whose funeral it was. The answer, as she heard it in her dream, was that the dead person was her sister. Mrs. Jeffries felt that the dream portended something unfortunate, but was hardly prepared for the telegram which she received next day telling of the death of her sister, which occurred at her home in the east.

Mrs. Jeffries was the last of a family of children. A brother's death was also killed in an accident several years ago, and it is related that by the same strange gift she had a premonition of his death.—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

## The Last of His Race.

Important officials sometimes forget that there are persons who can afford to disregard their importance. A purse proud old nobleman was traveling through the rural districts of Sweden. One day he stopped his carriage at a country tavern and called out in an imperious tone, "Horses, landlord! Horses at once!"

"I am very much pained to inform you that you will have to wait over an hour before fresh horses can be brought up," replied the landlord calmly.

"How!" violently exclaimed the nobleman. "This to me! My man, I demand horses immediately!"

Then observing the fresh, sleek looking ones which were being led up to another carriage, he continued:

"For whom are those horses?"

"They were ordered for this gentleman," replied the landlord, pointing to a tall, slim individual a few paces distant.

"I say, my man," called out the nobleman, "will you let me have those horses if I pay you a liberal bonus?"

"No," answered the slim man. "I intend to use them myself."

"Perhaps you are not aware who I am?" roared the now thoroughly agitated and irate nobleman. "I am, sir, Field Marshal Baron George Sparre, the last and only one of my race."

"The slim man was the king of Sweden," Youth's Companion.

## Position During Sleep.

Almost every one has a favorite position during sleep, and no end of theories and beliefs is indulged in on the subject of the proper position, location and general condition for that sleep. "That knits up the raveled sleeve of care." Many physicians argue that one should cultivate the habit of sleeping on the right side, especially if one has indulged in a full meal late in the evening. The food makes its exit from the stomach on the right side, and it is for this reason claimed that the position is more favorable to digestion without effort. This is important, as all of the faculties and functions should have a certain amount of rest, and in no way is this as easily attainable as during the hours of sleep.

Other authorities say that one should always lie on the back, but there are excellent reasons why this is not wise. The weight of the stomach and its contents rests upon the spine, which often affects the nerves. Some severe cases of insomnia have been cured by the habit of sleeping on the face. This is easy to do and is the most comfortable position if one dispenses with the pillow. One young man, who had exhausted all the skill of the doctors, fell into the habit of lying on his face, with his right arm under his head, which was turned slightly to one side. By this change natural rest soon came to him, and he entirely recovered. Whatever position one may choose to take, a little practice will make it comfortable, and the experiment is well worth trying.—*New York Ledger*.

## Big and Little Postage Stamps.

The largest postage stamp ever issued measured 4 inches by 2—the size of the old United States 5 cent stamp, restricted to packages of newspapers and periodicals posted in bulk and never intended for letters. The penny Madagascar stamp secured in regard to size, 3 inches by 1½ inches, was used to prepay postage on letters posted at the British consulate at Antananarivo, where there was no other postoffice in 1886. The private postage stamp of Robinson & Co., 4½ inches, with its figure of a bear, is 2½ by 1½ inches. The quarter schilling stamp of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, which was issued in 1850 is the smallest ever issued—less than one-fourth the size of the current penny English stamp—and it would take about 80 of them to cover the surface of the largest issued by the United States.—*Collector*.

## Practice Makes Perfect.

Richard I. landed that follow his pocket-book he had just dropped, and he didn't so much as thank me. There's not much encouragement to be had.

Harry—Oh, don't be discouraged at the very outset. It will come so easy after that you will be willing to be honest for nothing.—*Boston Transcript*.

## Where He Was.

"How many stories has this building?" asked the stranger.

"Several thousand," was the reply.

"What—why, where am I?"

"In the fiction department of the public library."—*Washington Star*.

## A Dangerous Disease.

Anxious Mother—Yes, Jane is very sick. I don't hope for her to get well. The doctor says she has a torped liver.—*Newport Daily News*.

## The signs.

"Barber Shop," "Shaving Parlors," "Tonsorial Studio," have all gone out of date with a Pittsburgh hairdresser, who displays a fine new shingle bearing the proud inscription, "Theophilus Browne, Coiffure."

## New Advertisements.

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Packed in Screw Stop-

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"ELEPHANT" GIN,

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SCOTCH WHISKY.

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## General Advertisements.

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Cod Liver Oil is there all the

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richer. Best of all it is a natu-

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one doubts the value of Cod

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